



2018

ANNUAL REPORT



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“Thankful”

By Rodney Callanan, DIAS Director

I finished 2018 with a deep sense of thankfulness. I'm thankful every year, but this last year in particular, I've reflected on the fact we can't do it alone. It's never one person who makes a lasting change, or one organisation that has all the solutions to a problem. It's the collective – you and me – who **together** can begin to impact a person, a town, a country. I am so thankful that it isn't just me trying to do something on my own and in my own strength, but it's all of us who are working together to leave a legacy greater than ourselves.

Our four persevering partners have faced many challenges and demands in 2018. In April, I had the privilege of visiting all of them and hearing about their successes, achievements, and their needs. It's during these visits that our relationship, friendship, and partnership is strengthened. Yes, I have to evaluate, monitor and report back to our Board on their progress, but just as important are the times when we simply sit down and do life with these men and ladies who have such a passion and commitment for their causes. To hear their heart and see how much they sacrifice for the cause is so encouraging to me. They achieve so much with so little and I always come away even more motivated to support them.

That was part of the reason we launched our Pioneers program this past year – so you can join them with every step they make. It can't just be them working alone in their communities, but all of us surrounding them. The more of us there are, the greater the impact. Why take just one human-sized step forward, when they can be taking sustained leaps forwards.

If you haven't yet become a Pioneer at www.dias.asn.au/pioneers. Together, we can make a big difference in the lives of many.

“It's the collective – you and me – who together can begin to impact a person, a town, a country.”

60 CHILDREN

rescued from traffickers

It seemed like an almost impossible situation. Here were 60 children, trafficked, abused, neglected, and no one could do anything.

For days after they'd been rescued, they sat outside the Ugandan police station, out in the open. There was no place for them to go, no resources to help them. The officials could do nothing but wait to receive help from someone or some organisation. They didn't even have spare pens or paper to take down statements from these children.

But then Peter and his team entered the situation.

When these children were rescued, they were so indoctrinated and radicalised that they initially resisted being set free and some were extremely violent. Many had been physically, sexually and emotionally abused by their captors.

With your support, Peter and the KCM team gave these children food, clothes, counselling, medical care and even schooling. In just a few weeks after their rescue, these children were laughing and playing. The girls were weaving carpets and the boys were playing soccer, while some were attending school.

The change was dramatic.

The power of love overcame the power of evil. Light forced out the darkness and hope shone bright in their beautiful faces.

**As it continues to be an active police investigation, little information can be published. At time of writing, 40 have been reunited with their parents and the KCM staff continue to seek relatives for the remainder.*

“It seemed like an almost impossible situation...”



2018 in numbers

565

children attending school

335

children in literacy programs

11

children sponsored through school



690

children fed daily in Kisumu, Bungoma, Kyampisi and Nateete



2

children brought to Aus for surgery

12

children cared for in rehab centre



5

children rescued from abuse

43

children rescued from trafficking



85

ladies in saving / loan scheme



21

families benefiting from farming co-op



KISUMU, KENYA

The Milele Centre is a hub of support for people in Kisumu, where it hosts programs, houses a community farm, kick-starts microfinance businesses, and will soon open a house for abandoned children.



2018 at a glance

- Over 200 children and teens are enrolled in community programs
- 21 families are supported through the Milele Farm
- Milele is mentoring locals as they create small businesses to support their families
- The Early Childhood Development (ECD) House is still in progress

Your impact

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Over 200 children and teens are enrolled in programs hosted by Milele, including LitWorld celebrations, which help children develop their literacy skills. That number has doubled since 2017. Milele has also formed a partnership with LitWorld's affiliate program, Global Girls Leading Our World, to empower girls through mentorship.

MICRO ENTERPRISE BUSINESSES

The team is supporting the parents and guardians of local children by kick-starting micro enterprises. Small businesses are being created and are thriving, and the team are training mentors to multiply the model for more families.

ECD HOUSE

The ECD building project is still in progress. All the door frames are in and most of the walls and floor have been plastered. We are still raising funds for some electrical and plumbing fittings. When it's completed, the ECD will house and care for up to 21 neglected and abandoned children under five years old.

MILELE FARMING

The Milele Farm continues to grow, and is now providing food for 21 families. That has increased from 15 families in 2017. People from three families in the community work on the farm, including Domtila, who is a widow with a disabled child and 13 grandchildren.

NATEETE, UGANDA

Bridge Christian Ministries (BCM) is based in Nateete, a forgotten slum area in Kampala. Like many slums, it is bustling with children who roam the streets while their parents are out looking for work in the day. BCM gives these children an education, food and clothing.



2018 at a glance

- 60 children now attend school, up from 35 in 2017
- New Seasons Nursery School needs to expand to keep up with growth
- Looking to partner with a primary school
- New school headmaster
- One previous street kid graduated from university

Your impact

NEW SEASONS NURSERY SCHOOL

The number of students at New Seasons Nursery School is rapidly increasing, with now 60 students attending. It is at maximum capacity! Rooms have been partitioned and divided to make room for new classes. A larger or new building is going to be needed very soon.

Currently, when the children graduate out of this school, they do not have a primary school to attend. So the BCM team is trying to form a partnership with a nearby school, but this will require significant funding in the form of sponsorships or scholarships.

In 2018, BCM employed a new Headmaster, Vincent Okumu. His youthful passion and motivation, together with his experience, has seen him introduce new policies, strategies and curriculums.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

In late 2018, Haggai spent two months touring throughout New Zealand. This is his third visit to the country, and from this last visit, he is now expecting several groups to travel to Uganda to work with BCM in the coming years. Your support is helping to multiply more support – thank you!

The story of a 16-YEAR-OLD 'FATHER'

Stephen was left a teen orphan, but rather than spending time coming to terms with life without a parent, he's been forced to be a father to his siblings.

He has three younger siblings to care for, which means making sure they are housed, fed and attending school.

But like most children in Kisumu, even the most tragic stories get harder to read.

At 16 years old, he's also had to get his two youngest siblings medical care for their HIV positive diagnoses, managing clinic visits and medication.

While juggling all that responsibility, their house was destroyed by heavy rains, leaving them homeless, and extended family didn't want to support them. Without family support, it's difficult to settle these children into school, and the older siblings are more focused on generating an income and food provisions than school.

But through a local partnership, Milele was able to raise the material needed to rebuild a house on their father's land. They are now happy to be in their homeland farming, going to school, and taking care of their property.

This story could have had a far worse ending, had it not been for the Milele Centre. Thank you for keeping this family together and making sure they didn't end up on the streets.

“

*But like most children
in Kisumu, even the most
tragic stories get harder
to read.* ”



KYAMPISI, UGANDA

Kyampisi Childcare Ministries (KCM) is a centre of education, rescue, empowerment, care and respite. It runs a school for 350+ children; a maternity clinic; a church; and a rehabilitation centre that cares for children suffering from abuse, mental trauma or physical injuries. KCM also helps the Ugandan police in child protection cases.



2018 at a glance

- Benson & Shamirah brought to Australia for surgery
- 60 trafficked children rescued
- Earthworks completed for new St Paul's Rehabilitation home
- KCM helped rewrite national laws covering child sacrifice crimes
- Peter Michael, Director of KCM, awarded the European Union's Human Rights Defenders Award

Your impact

SURGERIES

Benson returned to Australia to undergo final surgery, thanks to Dr David Winkle and his team at the Mater Children's Hospital. He'll now most likely only need further surgery in adolescence. Three-year-old Shamirah also came to Australia to restore her windpipe after falling on the edge of a bucket two years ago. She's been breathing through a tracheostomy tube, but thanks to Dr Niall Jefferson at the John Hunter Hospital, she can now eat and breathe normally. We are so grateful to these surgeons, hospital staff, and host families who looked after them. Once again, South African Airways and Virgin Australia covered all flights, free of charge.

DRAFTING CHILD SACRIFICE LAW

The Ugandan Government has requested KCM to lead a high-level delegation to rewrite the laws covering child sacrifice abuses and crimes. If these laws can be approved and implemented, perpetrators will be brought to justice swiftly and decisively.

DESTINY WOMEN PROJECT

The Destiny Women project empowers local women to engage in the workforce; learn and implement budgetary skills; and become involved in group savings schemes. These programs directly reduce poverty, bring dignity and independence, and also improve social networks, stability and security.

ST PAUL'S REHABILITATION CENTRE

Architects, engineers and quantity surveyors have almost completed the design and approval processes for the proposed Rehabilitation Centre. The required land has been purchased and the bulk earthworks have been completed for construction to start, hopefully in February 2019.

KIDNAPPED CHILDREN RESCUED

See story on page 5

BUNGOMA, KENYA

Restoration of Hope Ministries International (ROHMI) cares for young boys who live on the streets. For many, they've either been orphaned, or abused, or extreme poverty has left them no other option. But in every case, street life is never by choice because the conditions are horrendous.



2018 at a glance

- 250+ street children fed daily
- 30 boys living in the ROHMI home
- 96 children given hospital treatment
- 187 children treated for malaria; 40 treated for typhoid; 3 treated for broken arms; 8 treated after teeth knocked out; and 3 dental visits
- 8 students ranked top of their class
- 9 children assisted in business start-ups
- 14 street children provided with funds now employed and renting their accommodation
- 10 street children reunited with their families
- 2 street children attending vocational school to become carpenters

Your impact

ROHMI HOUSE

ROHMI currently houses 30 boys in its home, and each are clothed, fed and given an education at local schools. From this stable environment, these boys thrive at school. Many are achieving high academic reports, finishing in the top position within their school classes. A counsellor now regularly works with the street kids and staff, helping them with mental health issues and to overcome trauma they've experienced.

REACHING STREET BOYS

The team weekly reaches out to boys who are still living on the streets, providing practical support, like food, medical care, and basic supplies. But a key part is providing emotional support by valuing these boys and speaking into their lives during regular visits.

FOOTBALL MATCHES

ROHMI is using football to reach out to street boys and give them an outlet for their skills. When school is finished for the day or it's a weekend, the boys living in ROHMI's home and those still living on the streets unite together for training sessions. Often, they play each other in friendly matches, afterwards enjoying a meal together.

MICROFINANCE LOANS

Some of the boys have been given small microfinance loans, allowing them to buy bikes and trolleys (baggage/equipment transportation), along with a small amount of inventory for stock.

The first time I met stephen

BY RODNEY CALLANAN

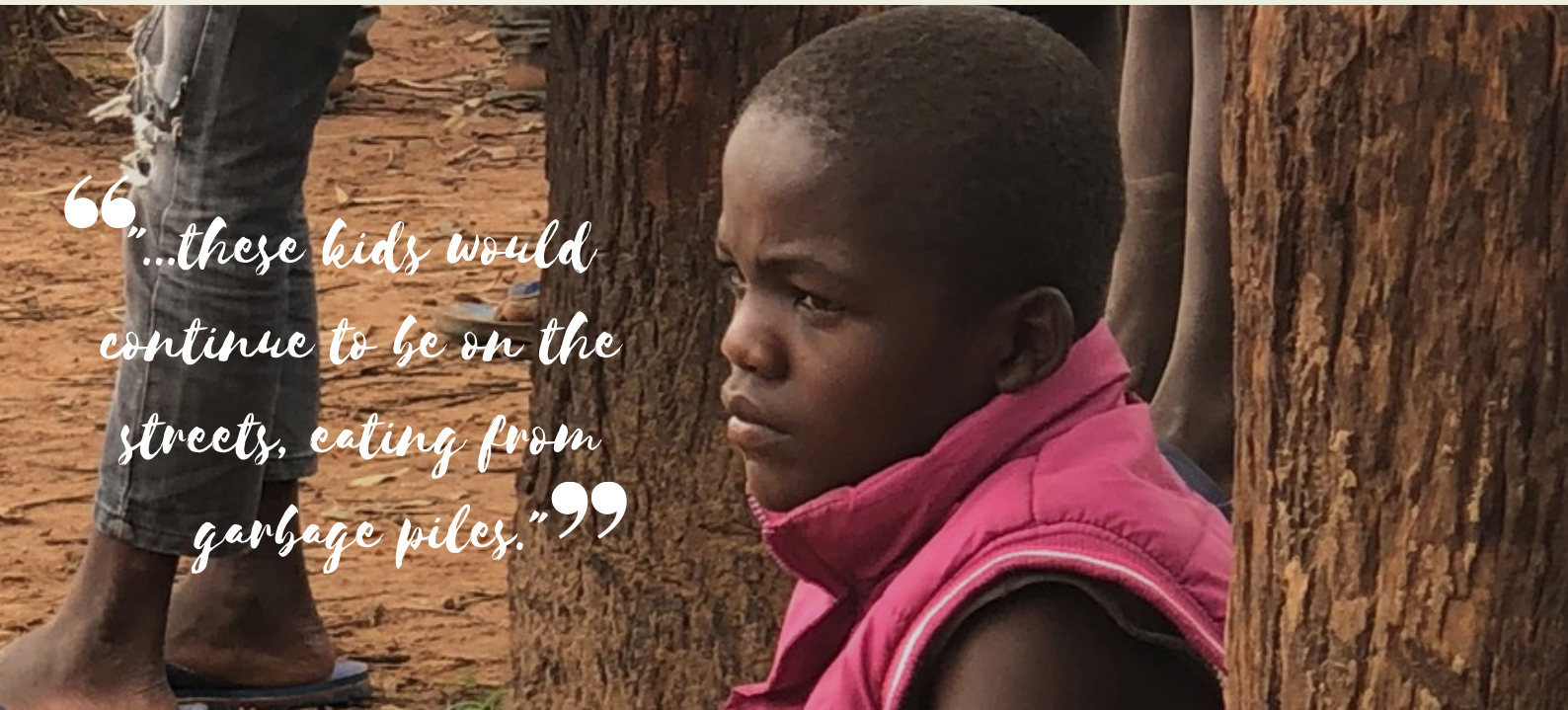
While visiting Bungoma, and driving along with our partner Joseph, I saw a young boy sitting on the tracks at a railway crossing. I asked Joseph to stop as I thought he was one of the street kids that he feeds.

As we pulled up, he came running to the car window and repeatedly asked if I could take him to school. His name was Stephen and was just 8 years old. As Joseph began talking with him, it became apparent that he was new to the town and also in need of some medical treatment. He had a weeping wound on his shin. He had script with him, which was really just a grubby piece of crumpled paper with the name of an antiseptic cream on it. Joseph invited him into the car, and we took him along with us to the soccer match that the other kids from the ROHMI Home were playing. Joseph then arranged for him to get the medication and temporarily move into the Home.

After I left the next day, Joseph took Stephen back to his family village and discovered that after his father had left the home, his mother had gone to Dubai in search of work. Stephen had been left with some family members who were supposed to look after him. But they hadn't, so Stephen decided to live on Bungoma's streets where he hoped he could find some food. After some lengthy discussions with the family members, Joseph was told that family would now look after Stephen, so he left him in their care. However, after just a few weeks, he learnt that Stephen had again run away as he was once again being abused. We had now lost all contact with Stephen, which was extremely sad.

After months of prayer, enquiries and searching, police from a nearby town found Stephen, and he is now reunited with his family under Joseph's supervision.

Such are the problems faced by many children in these extreme cases of poverty. If it were not for the love and care shown by Joseph and the ROHMI team, these kids would continue to be on the streets, eating from garbage piles.



“...these kids would continue to be on the streets, eating from garbage piles.””



FINANCIALS

	2018	2017
TOTAL REVENUE	\$430,500	\$316,439
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$452,846	\$342,642
PARTNER SUPPORT	\$30,203	\$23,487
PROJECTS	\$147,840	\$59,167
BRING THEM TO AUSTRALIA	\$5,315	\$10,246
ST PAULS REHABILITATION	\$20,713	-
WEEMA MEDICAL CLINIC	-	\$7,530
MAIZE MILL	\$9,261	\$35,400
MILELE ECD BUILDING	\$21,318	-
COURT TRIALS	\$40,000	\$0
RESCUED CHILDREN	\$51,233	\$5,991
ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT	\$262,198	\$230,625
EDUCATION	\$37,421	\$32,934
HEALTH & WELFARE	\$65,333	\$42,675
CHILD SUPPORT	\$159,444	\$155,016
MISCELLANEOUS (TRIP COSTS)	-	\$21,801

*A more detailed financial report can be obtained by contacting
the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission.*

Thank you!



DROPLETS IN A STREAM

www.dias.asn.au